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Air Blast Meshing & Pressure Mapping



Gerrit Vander Wiel

August 4, 2021



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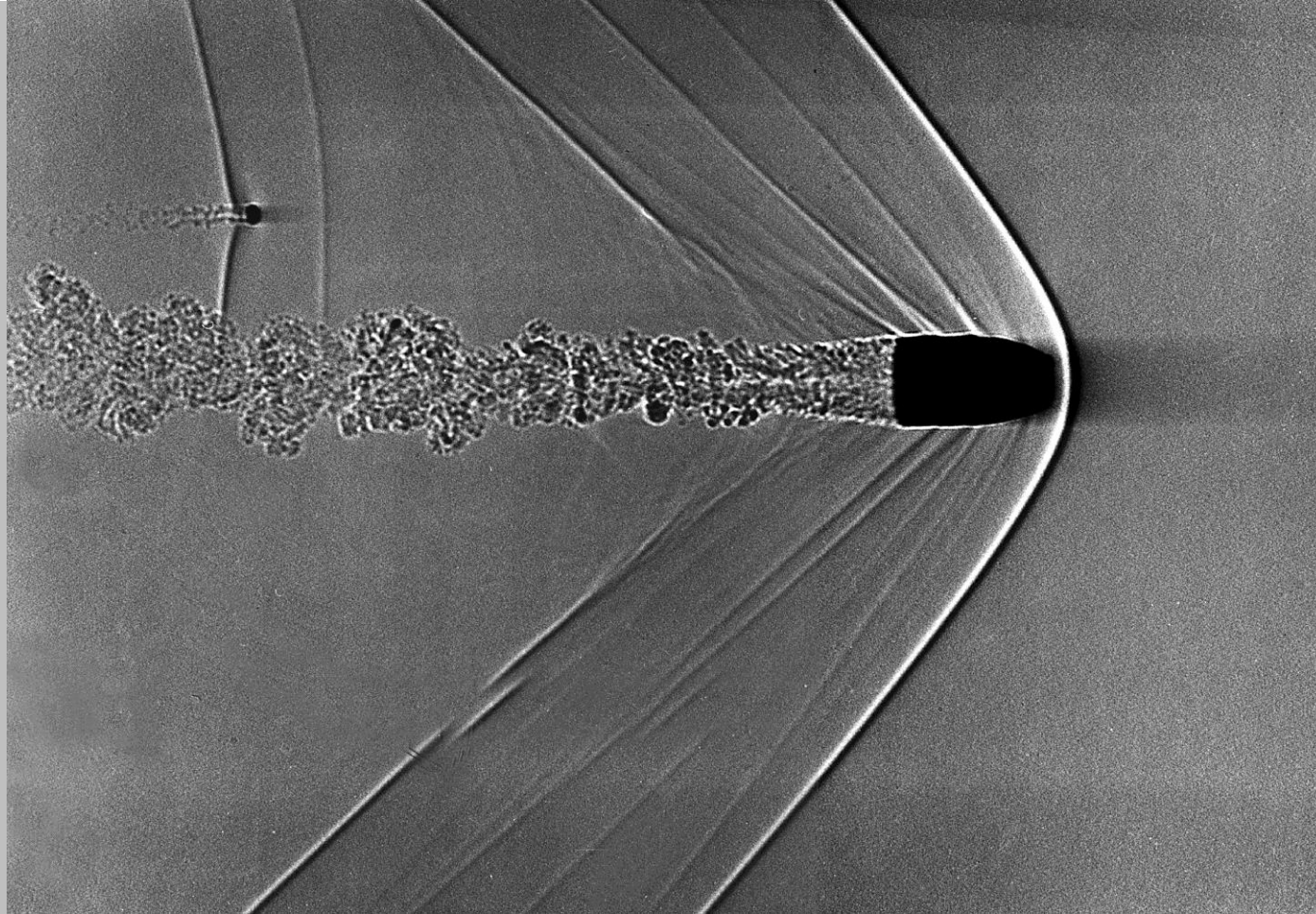
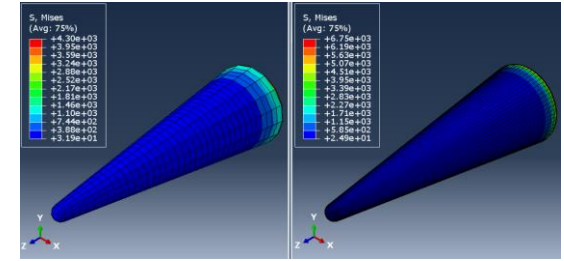


Fig. 1.

Shadowgraph captures a bullet traveling at 1.5 times the speed of sound. A pressure wave is depicted at the fore, and turbulence at the rear

Project Goals

- Mesh sensitivity study
 - Determine at what mesh density results converge
 - Build a model that reflects theoretical solutions
- Map experimental pressure data onto the surface of the cone
 - Track rigid body motion
- Stresses in conic Body
 - Observe how the model reacts to stresses different than the ones tested in the mesh sensitivity study



Mesh Sensitivity

Cantilever Beam Example

- Euler-Bernoulli beam theory
- Measured deflections

Assumptions:

- Plane sections remain planar
- Deformed angles are small

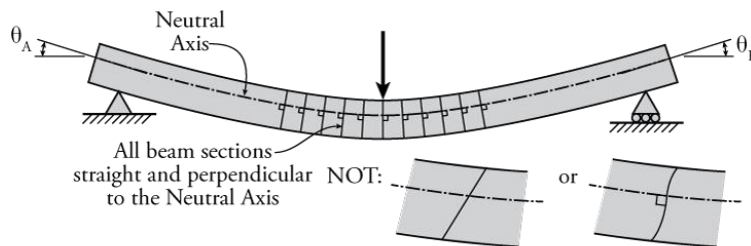
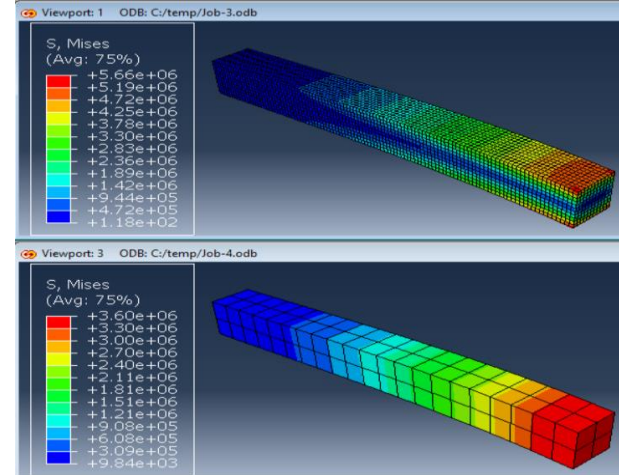


Fig. 2.



Deflection Equation

$$w(x) = \frac{qx^2(6L^2 - 4Lx + x^2)}{24EI}$$

q = distributed load

L = length

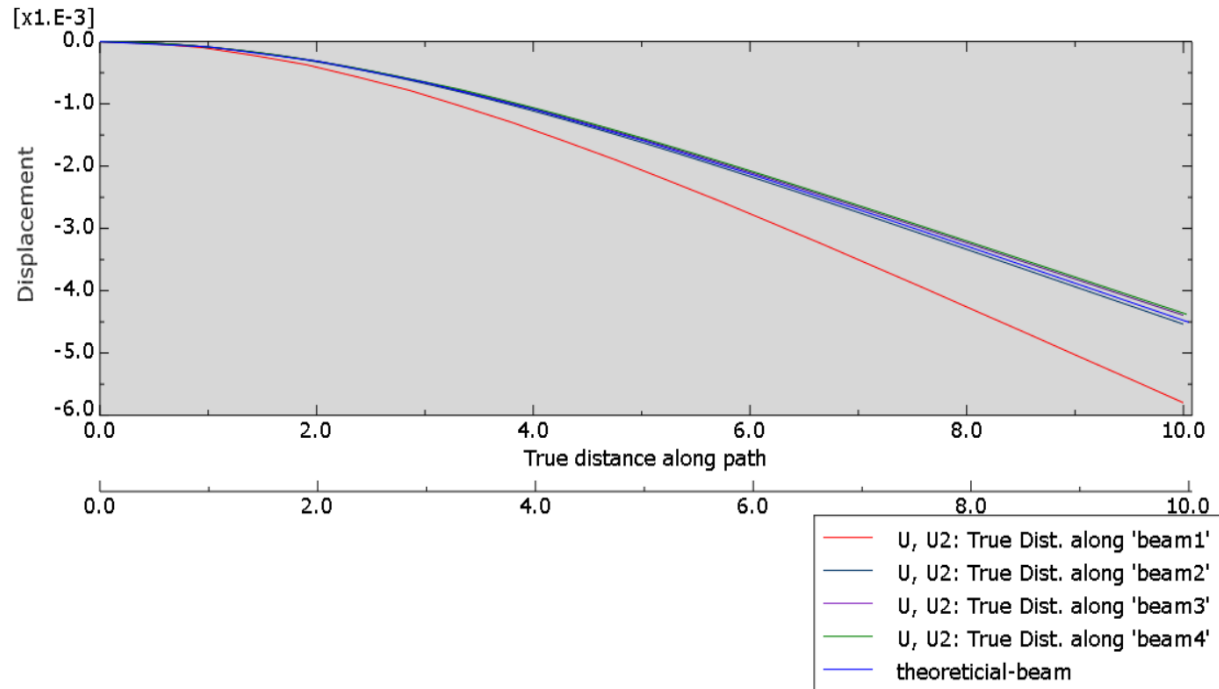
I = second moment of area

Beam Theory Results

- Good correlation and signs of convergence

% Error calculated at maximum displacement:

- ≈ 80 elements 33.17%
- $\approx 1,200$ elements 4.19%
- $\approx 13,000$ elements 0.82%
- $\approx 34,000$ elements 0.53%



Building the Model

- Engineering Drawings
 - Simplifications
 - 0.25 in. thickness
- CUBIT python command line

Command Line

```
%>
%>cubit.cmd('#Closure Plate ')
%>cubit.cmd('create Cylinder height 0.25 radius 10.191176')
Successfully created cylinder volume 4
Journaled Command: create cylinder height 0.25 radius 10.191176

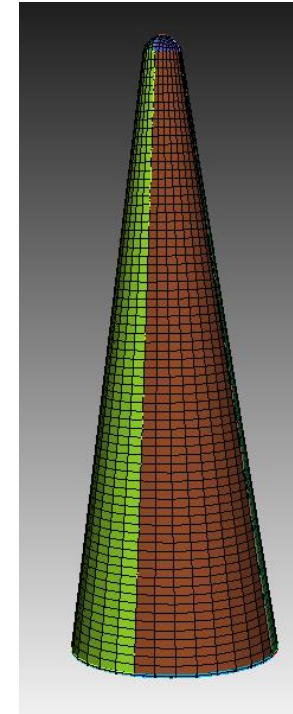
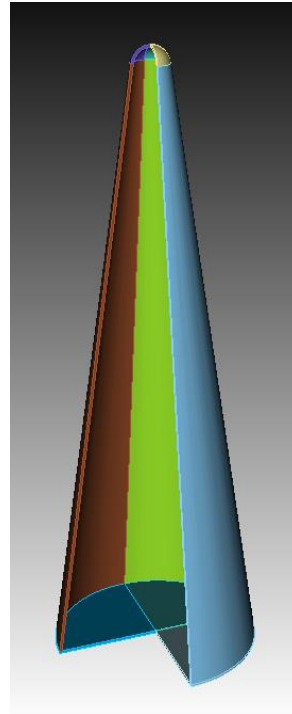
%>cubit.cmd('move Volume 4 z -39.681')
Moved Body 4: x 0.000000e+00 y 0.000000e+00 z -3.968100e+01
Journaled Command: move volume 4 z -39.681

%>cubit.cmd('imprint volume all ')
Preserving undo information...done
Group imprint finished.
Updated volume(s): 1, 3, 4
IMPRINT completed.
```

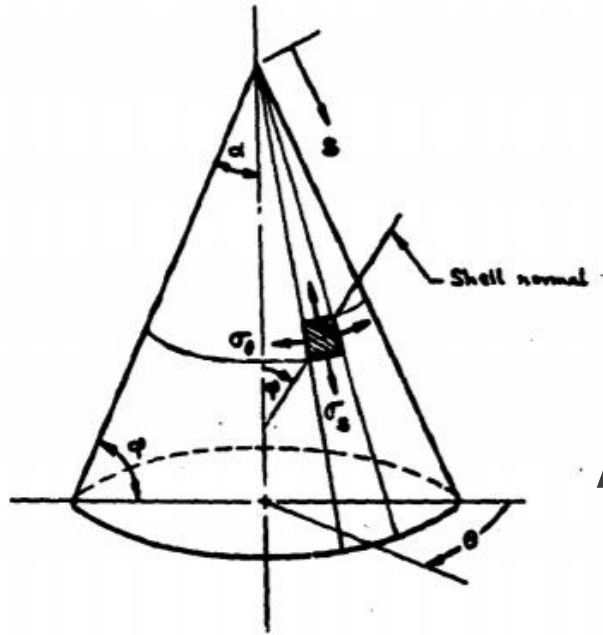
cubit.cmd("Enter cubit command")

Script / Command / Error / History

- Model built and meshed in CUBIT



Theoretical Solutions



Hoop Stress:

$$\sigma_\theta = \frac{ps}{h} \tan(\alpha)$$

Meridional Stress:

$$\sigma_s = \frac{ps}{2h} \tan(\alpha)$$

Radial Displacement:

$$u_r = \frac{ps^2 \sin(\alpha) \tan(\alpha)}{2Eh} (2 - \nu)$$

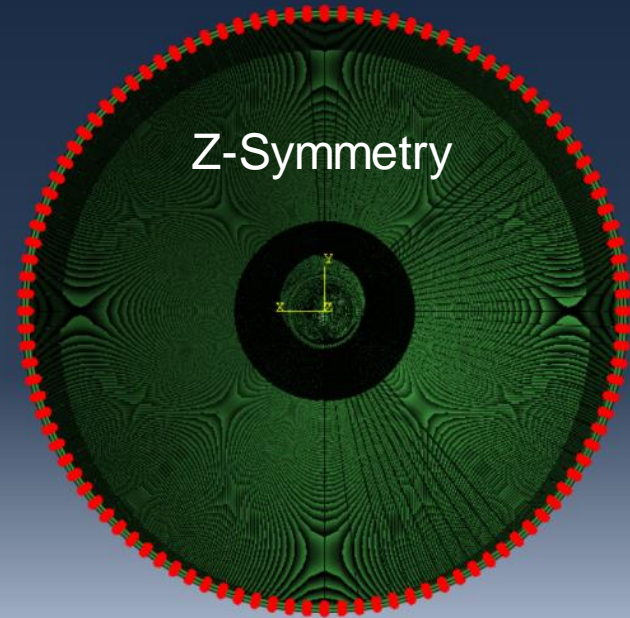
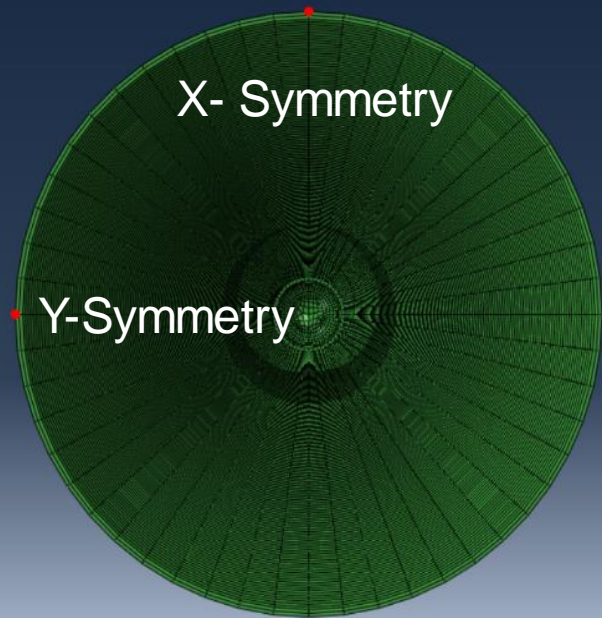
Assumptions:

- Thin Shell ($h/a \leq 1/15$) \rightarrow ($0.03 \leq 0.067$)
- Perfectly elastic, homogeneous, and isotropic solid
- Only loading is internal pressure
- Uniform thickness

Model Setup

Boundary Conditions:

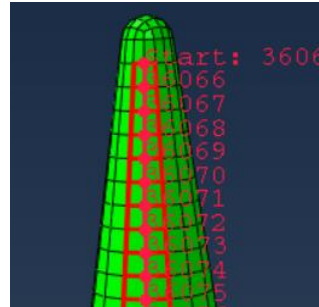
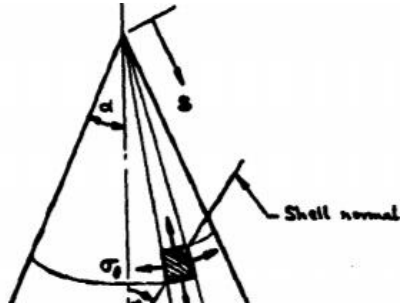
- Highlighted nodes are fixed with the listed conditions



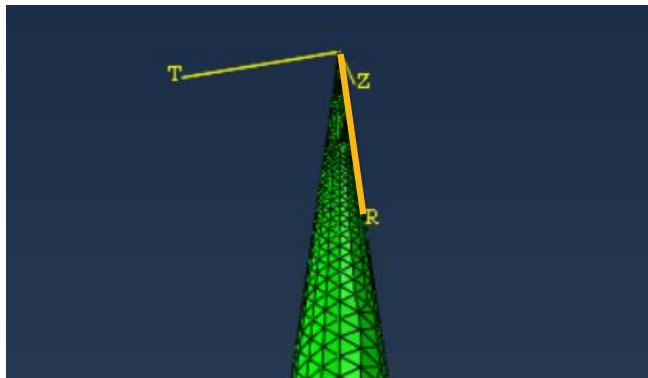
Model Setup

Path Definition:

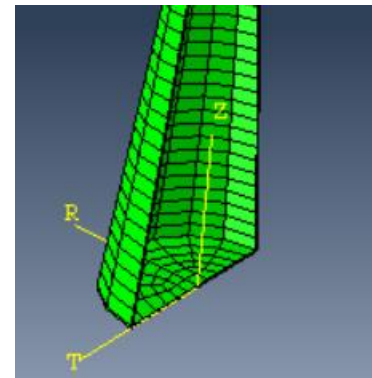
“s = distance of a point of the middle surface from the vertex measured along a generator.”



Coordinate Systems:



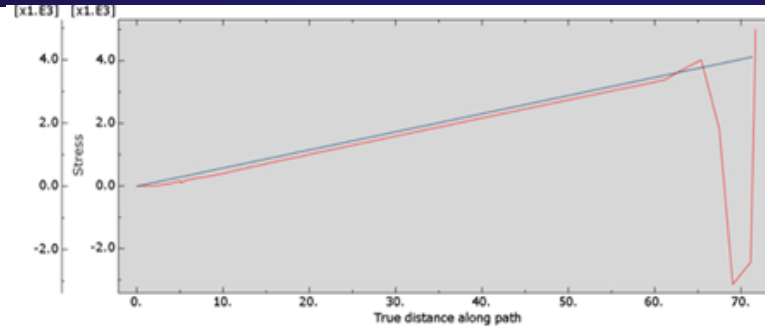
- Meridional Stress (S11 tensor)



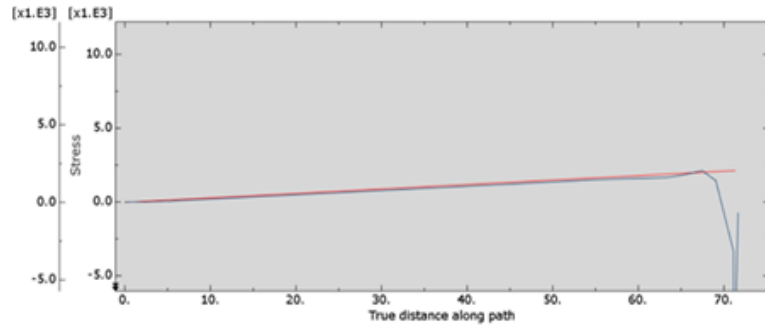
- Hoop Stress (S22 tensor)
- Radial Displacement (U1 component)

Regular Cone Comparison (3D model)

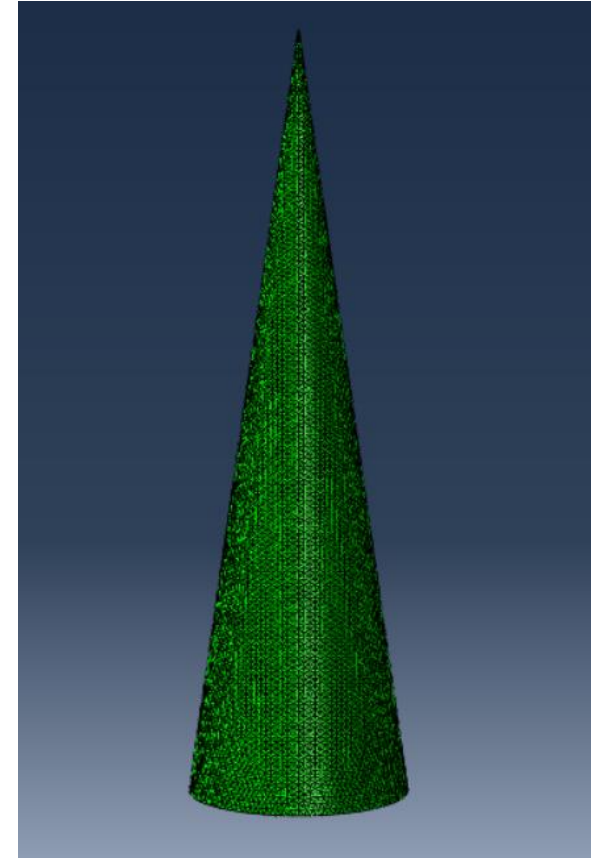
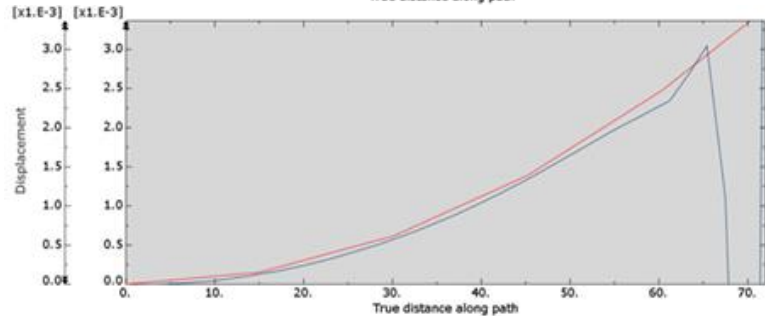
Hoop Stress
4.85%



Meridional Stress
6.20%



Radial Displacement
3.95%



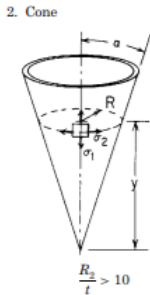
False Starts

- **Inertia Relief**

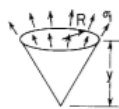
Boundary conditions led to asymmetry and stress concentrations

- **Base Plate**

Initially an aft base plate was excluded



2a. Uniform internal or external pressure, q force/unit area; tangential edge support



$$\sigma_1 = \frac{qR}{2t \cos \alpha}$$

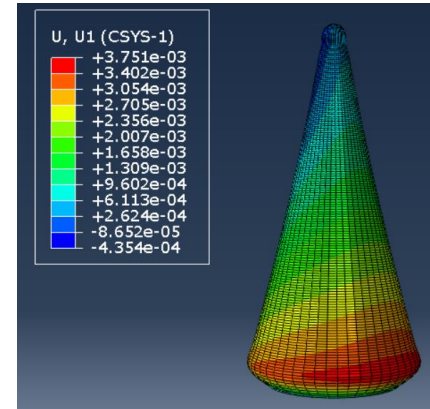
$$\sigma_2 = \frac{qR}{t \cos \alpha}$$

$$\Delta R = \frac{qR^2}{Et \cos \alpha} \left(1 - \frac{\nu}{2}\right)$$

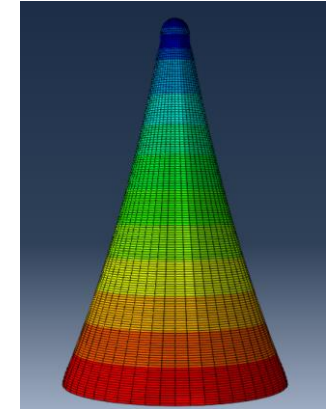
$$\Delta y = \frac{qR^2}{4Et \sin \alpha} (1 - 2\nu - 3 \tan^2 \alpha)$$

$$\psi = \frac{3qR \tan \alpha}{2Et \cos \alpha}$$

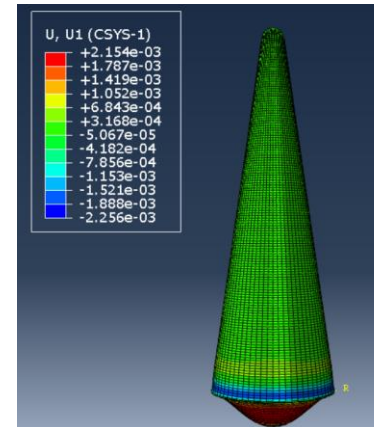
Initial BC's



Inertia Relief

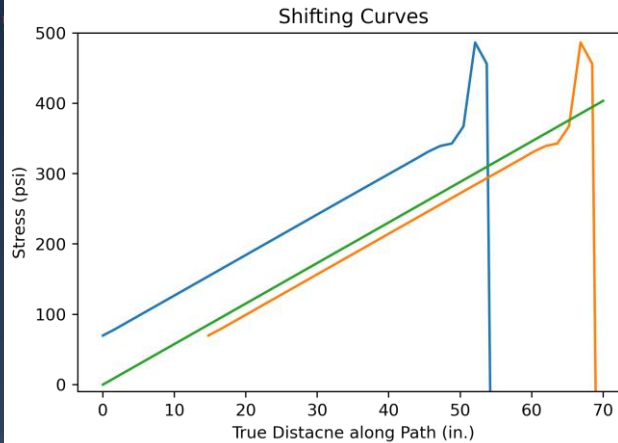
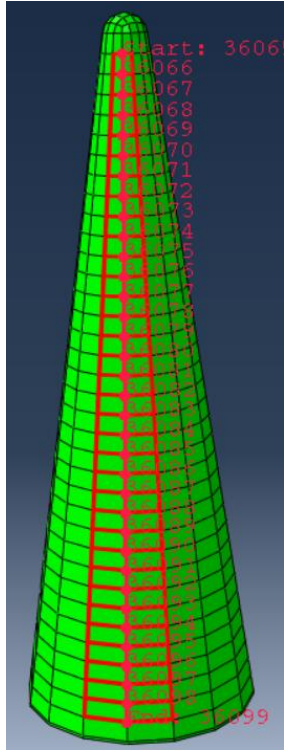


Base Plate

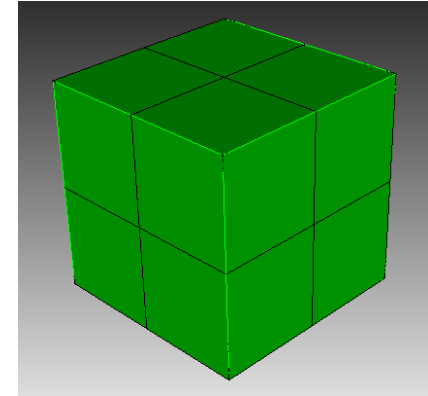


False Starts

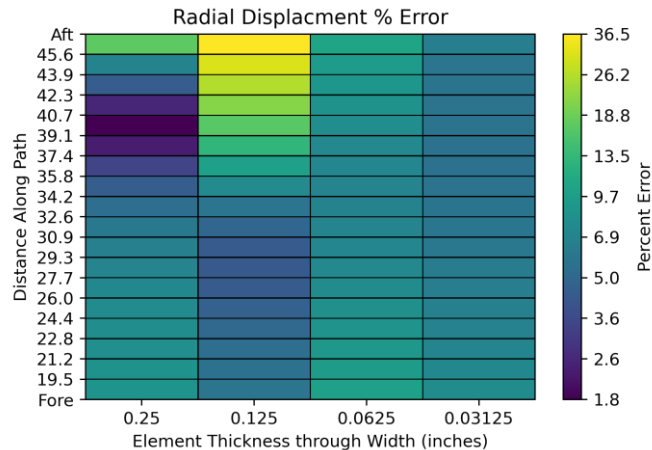
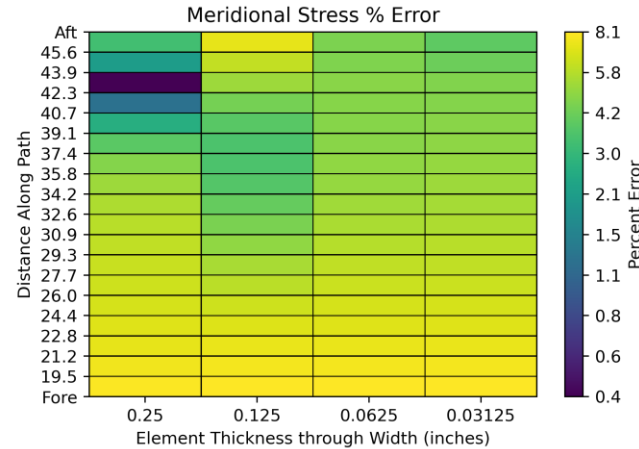
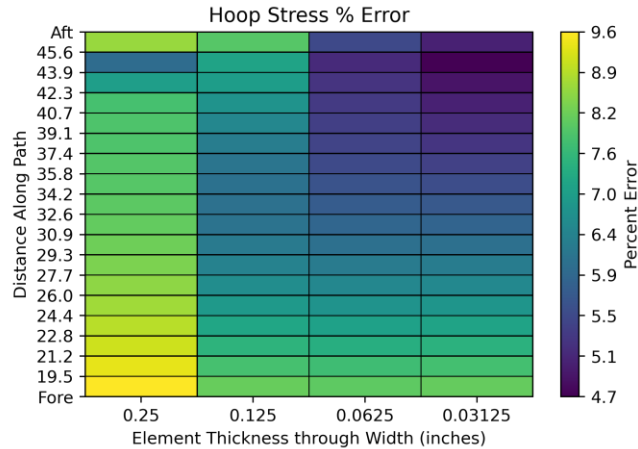
- Shifting Data



- Mesh Refinement
Each element cut into 8
using CUBIT



Mesh Sensitivity Results

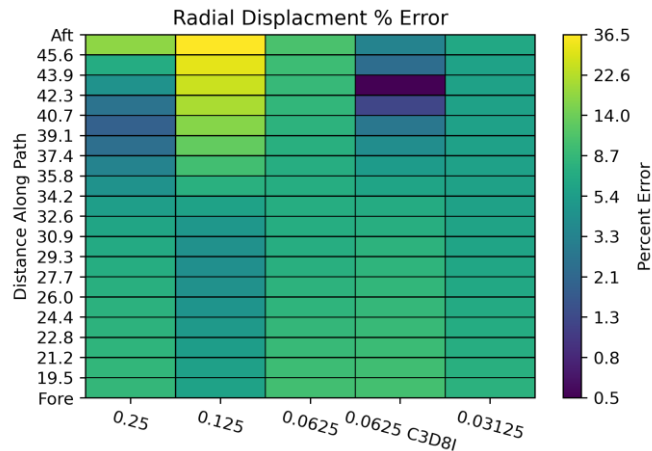
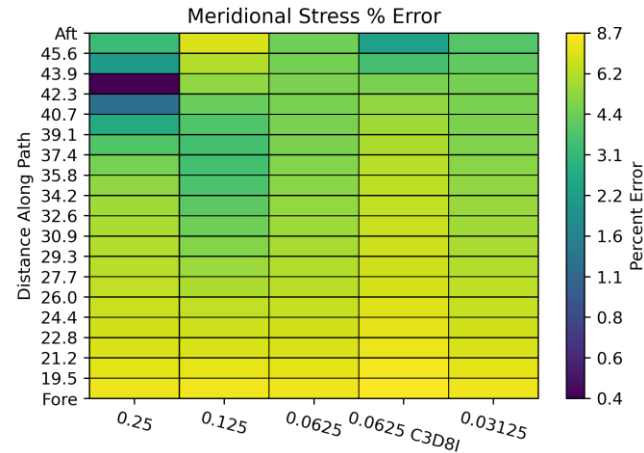
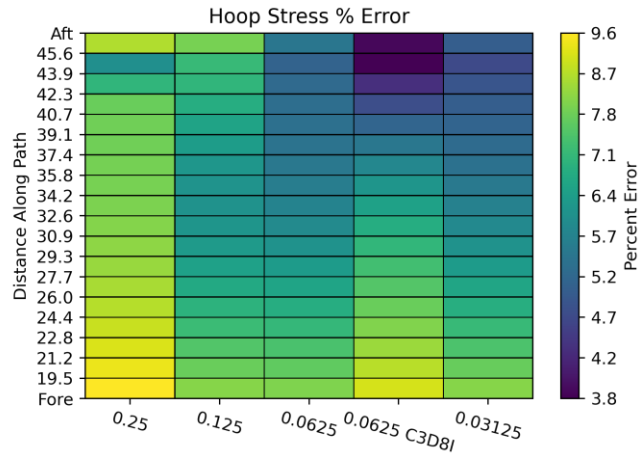


Hoop: 8.23, 6.84, 6.14, 6.03

Meridional: 5.01, 5.48, 5.77, 5.74

Displacement: 6.47, 11.75, 8.24, 6.28

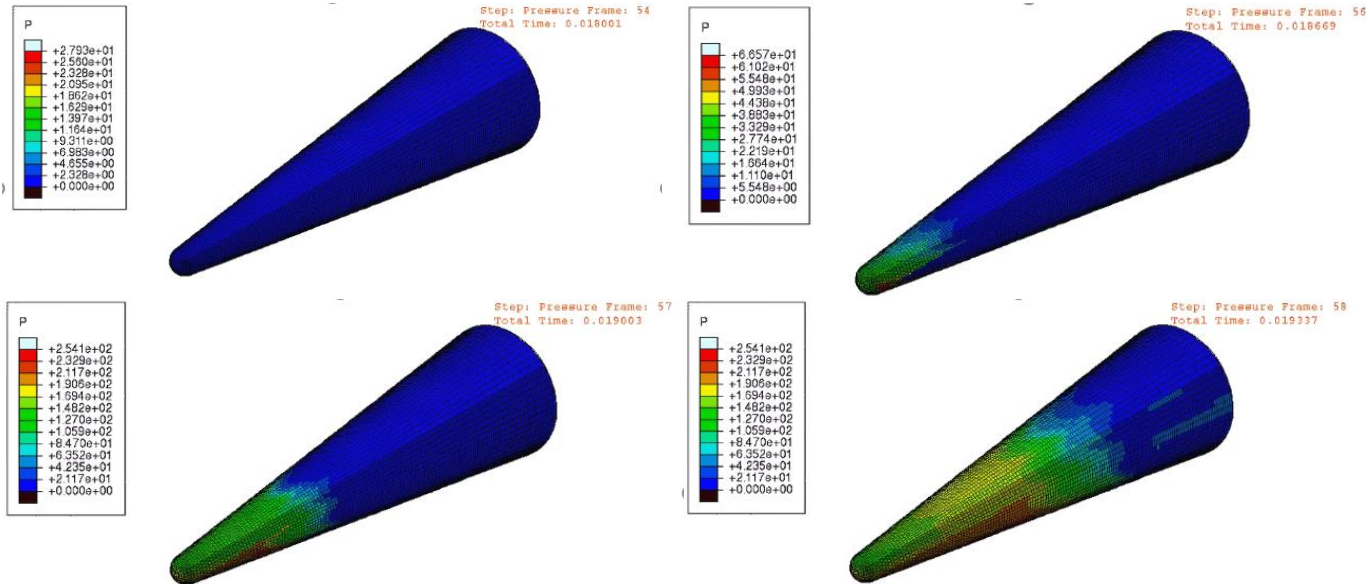
Other Element types



- C3D8I elements are supposed to have better performance with bending problems

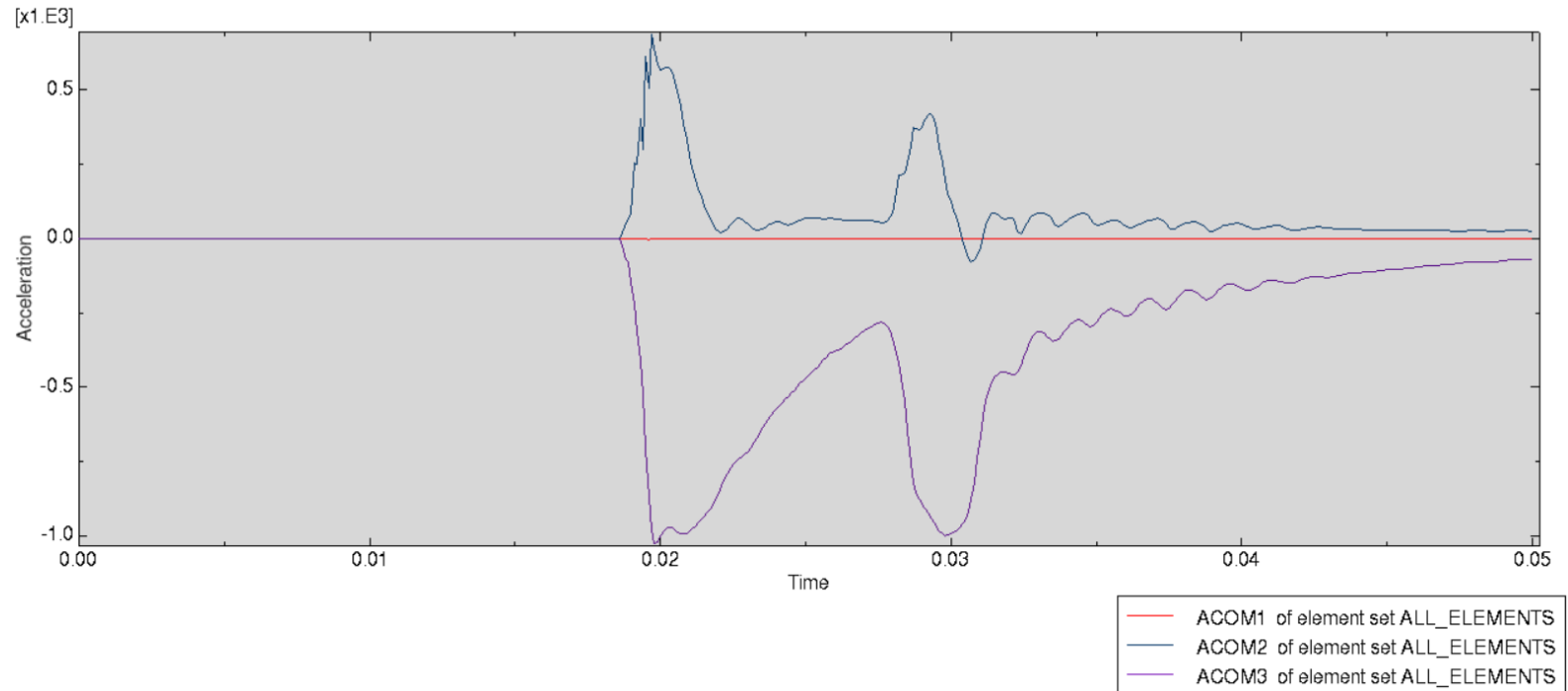
Pressure Mapping

- Suite of scripts for pressure mapping
 - provided by Paula Rutherford
- Time dependent pressure loading



Pressure Mapping Results

Rigid Body Motion



Next Steps

- **Python pressure mapping**
 - Build mapping script using nearest neighbor interpolation
 - Compare nearest neighbor with linear interpolation.
- **Analyze stresses induced by the pressure load**
 - As pressure increases how do stresses change with
 - Environment
 - Geometry
 - Material properties

Works Cited

Fig. 1. https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/galex/20070815/f.html

Fig. 2. <https://learnaboutstructures.com/Bernoulli-Euler-Beam-Theory>